

PRIZE-WINNING  
DESIGNS











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# PRIZE-WINNING DESIGNS

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*About February 1st, 1908, we mailed to every architect in the United States and Canada a program of a competition for the selection of designs for low-cost houses, not to cost over \$3000. We quote a few paragraphs of this program:—*

“It is proposed to erect at East Walpole, Massachusetts, in connection with our paper mills, a group of low-cost cottages, similar in construction to experiments which we have already made, with our own products as an exterior covering, and the competition is presented for the purpose of selecting new and varied designs.

The competition is to be conducted under the rules of the American Institute of Architects; and Professor Francis W. Chandler, head of the Architectural Department of the Institute of Technology, and Mr. Charles Collens, of the firm of Allen & Collens of Boston, will act as judges.

The houses are to be designed for one family, each family having a living room, a kitchen with pantry, a dining room, four bedrooms with closets, and a bathroom.

It is proposed to cover the exterior walls and roofs with our *PROSLATE ROOFING* material, put up in rolls eighteen inches wide. On the walls, the joints may be covered with battens at least three inches wide, and the *PROSLATE* may be cut in patterns to suit any artistic arrangement of battens.

To aid in this computation, the competitors may reckon the cost of *PROSLATE* at \$4 per one hundred square feet surface, adding about 75 cents per one hundred square feet for the labor of putting on. Competitors may estimate on using *FLORIAN SOUND DEADENING FELT* at a cost of 70 cents per one hundred square feet, and *NEPONSET RED WATER-PROOF PAPER* to be used on the walls of the building underneath the *PROSLATE ROOFING*, at a cost of \$1.20 per one hundred square feet.

The name of the author of the design is to be sealed in a plain white envelope, and the design and envelope will both receive the same number on receipt.

The drawings are to be judged on the following points: —

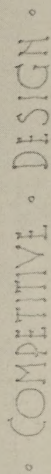
1. Compactness and economy in planning, in order to make the rooms as large as the low cost (\$3000) of the construction will allow.
2. Artistic treatment of the *PROSLATE* specified for walls and roofs.
3. The general excellence of the presentation.

In case any design is used for actual construction, the author of the same will be compensated according to the schedule of the American Institute of Architects."

We received four hundred and thirty-two designs from architects all over the country — a very gratifying result.

For a general report of all the designs and special criticisms of the winning designs, we refer you to the judges' report, printed in the pages directly following the reproductions of the prize-winning designs.





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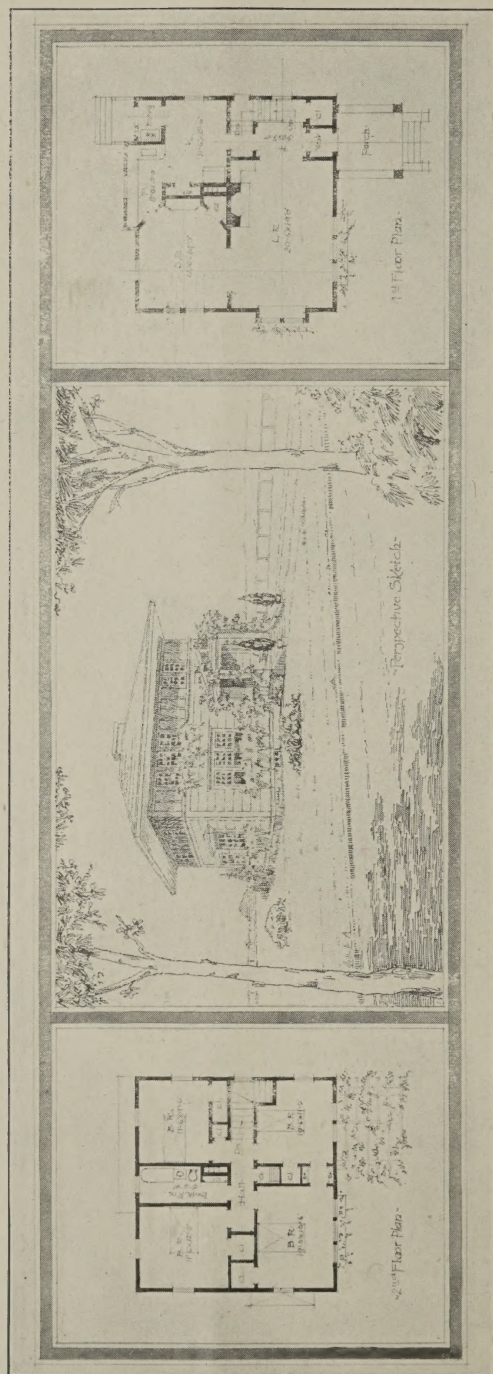
LOW-COST-HOUSES-AT-LAST-WALPOLE-MASS-

204

F. W. DILL & SON.

FIRST PRIZE

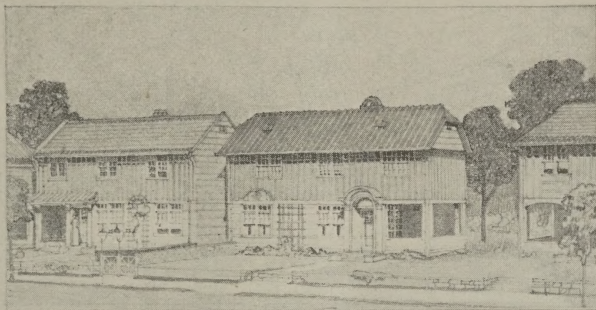
HERMAN J. VOSS, Boston, Massachusetts



SECOND PRIZE  
 WILLIAM C. AYRES, New York City

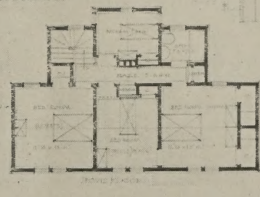
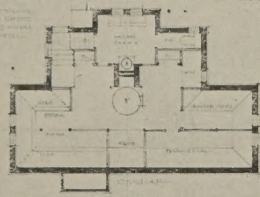
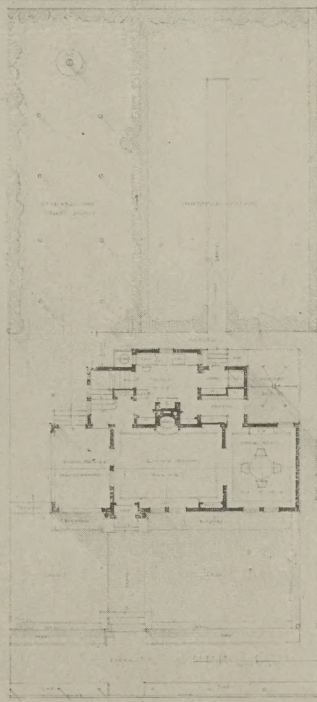


113  
3<sup>rd</sup>



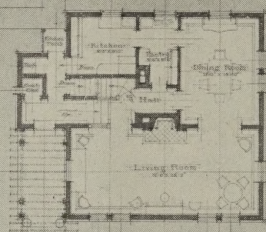
COMPETITIVE DESIGN  
FOR PROSLATE HOUSES

FOR F.W. BIRD AND SON,  
EAST WALPOLE, MASS.

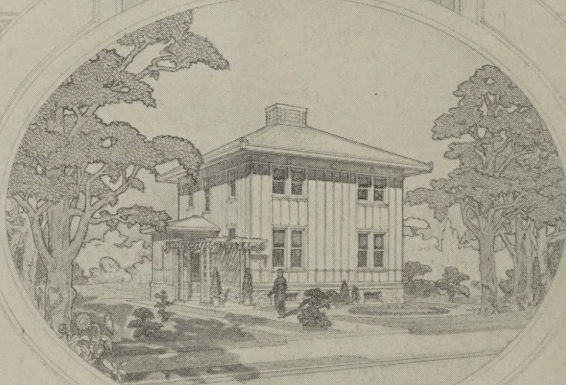


THIRD PRIZE

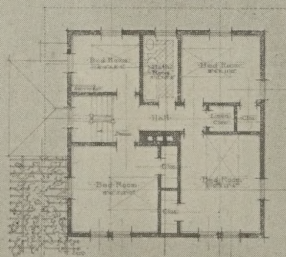
J. T. TUBBY, JR., New York City



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



PERSPECTIVE



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

COMPETITION FOR 3,000,000 HOUSES  
FOR  
F.W.BIRD AND SONS PAPER MILLS  
EAST WALPOLE, MASS.

FOURTH PRIZE  
C. F. ROSBORG, New York City



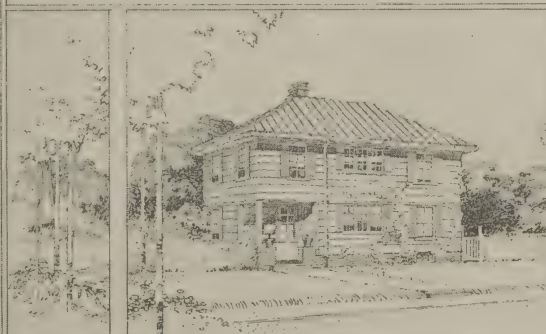
# COMPETITIVE SKETCH FOR F-W-BIRD AND SONS



• SECOND FLOOR •



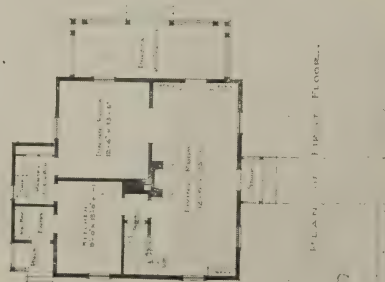
• FIRST FLOOR •



• P E R S P E C T I V E •

FIFTH PRIZE

MARCUS R. BURROWES, Detroit, Mich.



PLAN OF FIRST FLOOR.



PLAN OF SECOND FLOOR.



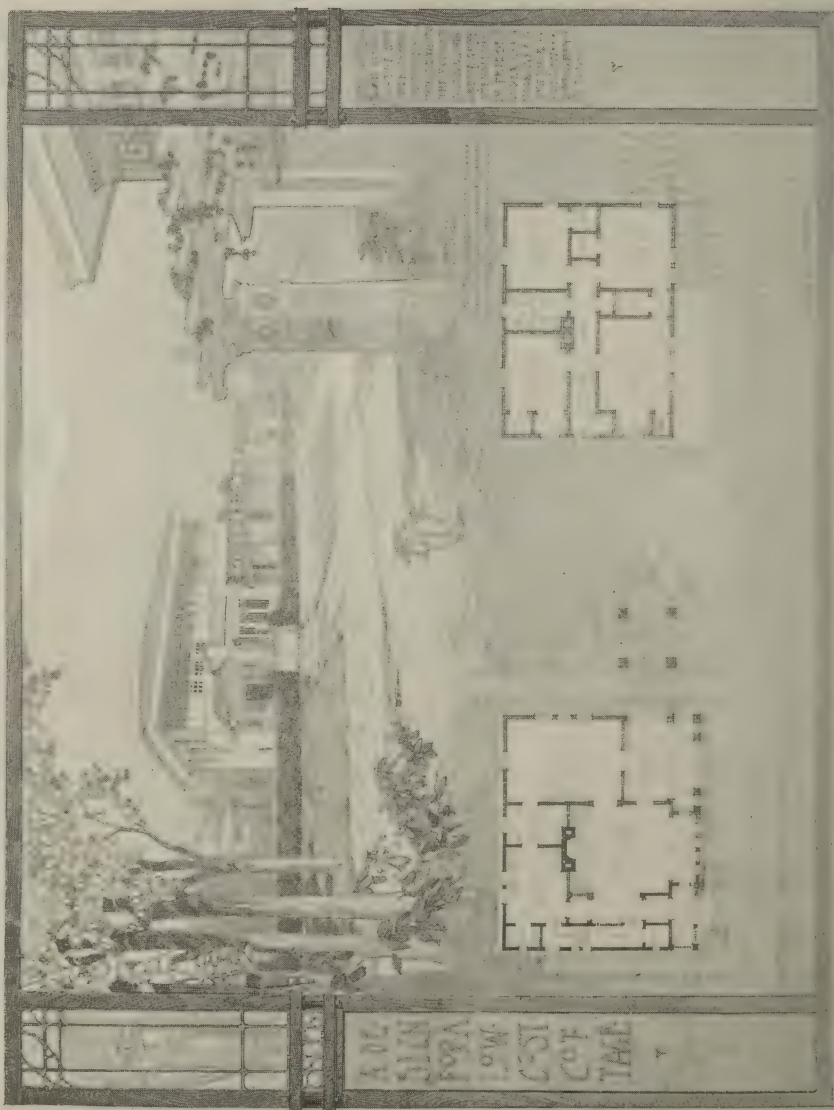
# THREE THOUSAND DOLLAR HOUSE COMPETITION.

SIXTH PRIZE

W. T. ROBERTSON, Providence, R. I.







*EIGHTH PRIZE*

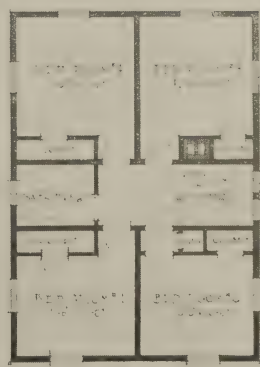
OTTO R. EGGERS, New York City  
WALTER HAEFFEL



DESIGN FOR A COTTAGE  
 EAST WALPOLE, MASS.

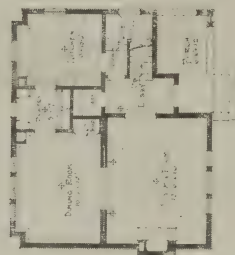


- FIRST FLOOR PLAN -  
 SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"



- SECOND FLOOR PLAN -  
 SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

HONORABLE MENTION  
 G. STANLEY WIRES, Milford, Mass.



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



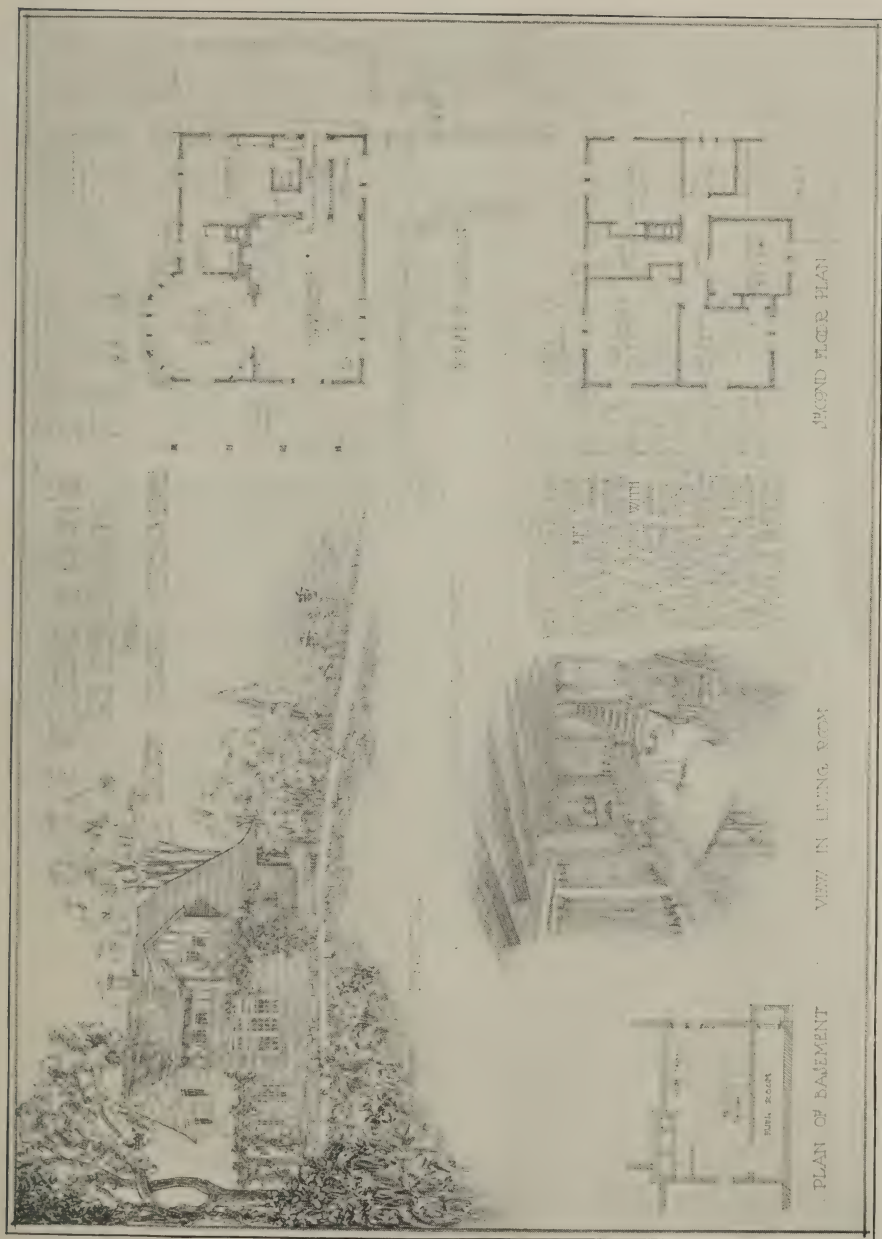
SECOND FLOOR PLAN

# A DESIGN FOR LOW COST HOUSE A

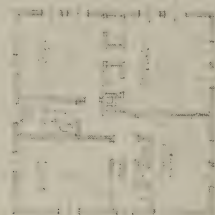
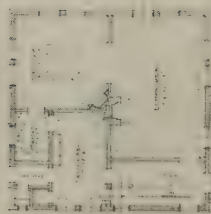
COMPETITION GIVEN BY F.W. BIRDSON.

HONORABLE MENTION  
W. W. JOHNSON, West Point, N. Y.

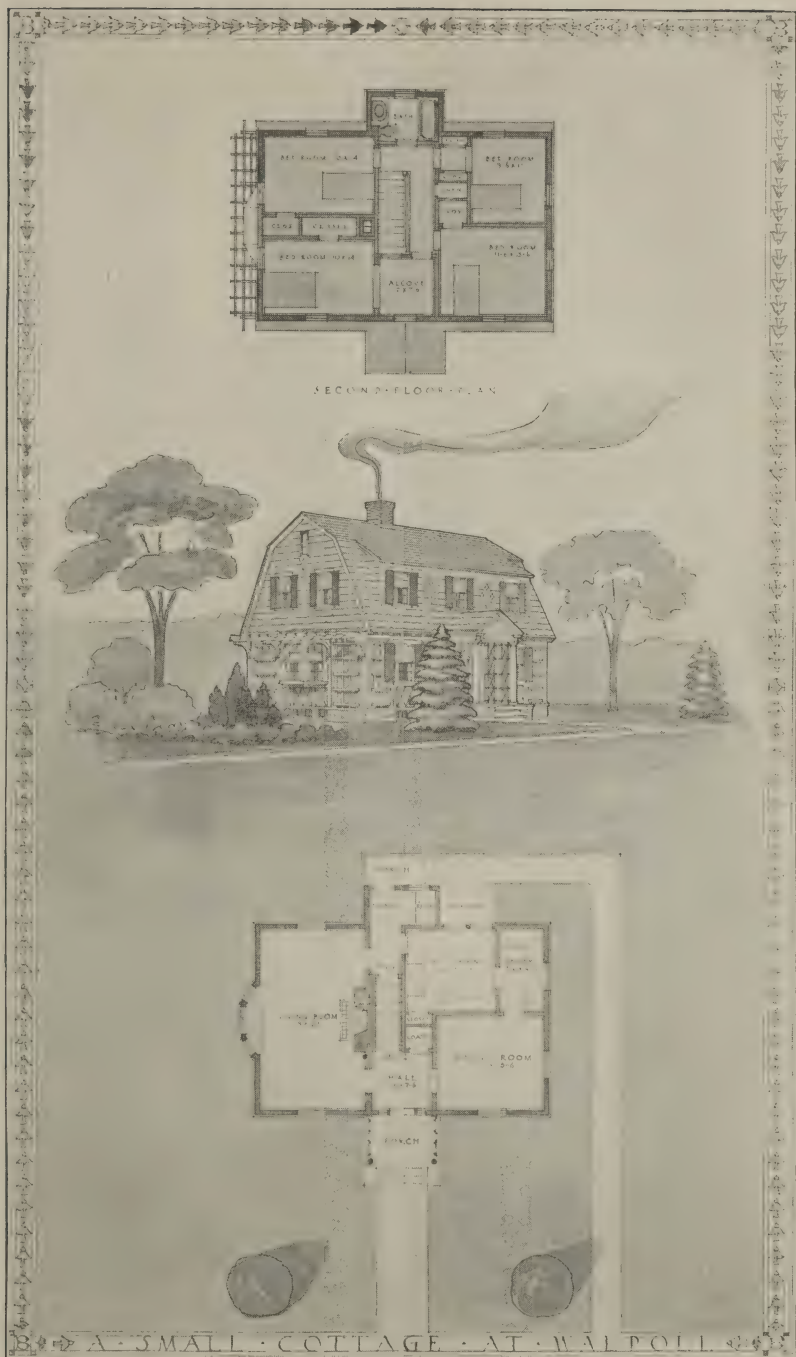




*HONORABLE MENTION*  
 RUSSELL EASON HART, New York City



HONORABLE MENTION  
LOUIS S. WEEKS, New York City



HONORABLE MENTION  
 GEORGE GUPPY, Boston, Massachusetts



April 17, 1908.

MESSRS. F. W. BIRD & SON,  
East Walpole, Mass.

*Gentlemen,* — We beg to present our report concerning the competition recently held for the purpose of procuring designs for low-cost cottages, not over \$3000, and to be obtained through the use in their construction of the products of Messrs. F. W. Bird & Son.

Four hundred and thirty-two designs were received, an ample proof of the great interest taken in the competition. The quality of the work shown is of a high standard, and the results are very gratifying and of much interest. Your generosity in the awards offered, and the fact that only simple, straightforward work was required of the competitors, were effective inducements for them to attempt the solving of a very interesting problem.

In considering the designs, we have held absolutely to the following points as demanded by the program: —

1. Compactness and economy in planning, in order to make the rooms as large as the low cost (\$3000) of the construction will allow.
2. Artistic treatment of the Proslate specified for walls and roof.
3. The general excellence of the presentation.

We have gladly given a great deal of time and thought to the study of these designs, and in reaching our conclusions we have been governed by the following considerations: A low-cost house of the requirements specified must be designed compactly. It can hardly afford more than one chimney, and an outside one should be avoided. The plumbing on all floors must be in the same direct line. There can be only one staircase to second story, with one under it to the cellar. Too much overhanging of the second story must be avoided, and the simpler the roof the better. On the other hand, the association of rooms on the first floor must stand for the most convenient service, as well as for as effective isolation of the kitchen as possible. In the second story, the entryway should be straight, well lighted, and of as small area as possible.

We were obliged to reject a great number of the designs on the score of cost, — designs beautifully presented, that would have made most attractive houses, but of a grade entirely beyond that intended in this competition. As regards the question of cost, we have made our own estimates, and have been

much interested in comparing them with those offered by the competitors. It would be still more interesting to learn if the competitors' estimates, with such extreme variations, represented prices in different localities. But this we have no means of learning, for we prefer to have you open the envelopes enclosing the competitors' names. We can only say that however complicated the plan and exterior may be, or however much area is covered, the designer has invariably been able to keep his estimate *on paper* to the \$3000 limit. This we have been unable to do. We cannot guarantee that any of the designs submitted can be built for \$3000, but we have made a selection of these which represent the least area and simplest exterior treatment, combined with compact planning.

**FIRST.** — We have placed number 140 first. One can hardly improve this design in its compactness, economical arrangement, and general suitability for the purpose intended. It covers the least area of any of the best plans and at the same time the result is a most livable and attractive house. In the first story the association of rooms is very convenient. One chimney serves the whole house. In the second story are four good corner chambers, the bathroom is directly over the plumbing below, and the hall is well lighted.

The exterior is of good design and shows an effective use of the Proslate. No design meets so well as this the conditions of the competition. The presentation of the scheme is most excellent.

**SECOND.** — We have placed number 18 second. The plan is very compact and economical of space. The dining room opening from the living room gives the effect of a large area. The kitchen is admirably arranged; two doors separate it from the front of the house. The pantry, instead of being closed, is very cleverly planned, a cross draft is insured, and a single sink serves for both kitchen and pantry. One chimney furnishes the flue connection for all rooms on this floor. There is a side entrance under the landing of the main stairs which communicates both with the cellar stairs and the kitchen. This should be a great convenience. The second story is well arranged; a well-lighted straight hall leads to four good corner chambers; the bathroom is directly over the kitchen plumbing.

The exterior shows an appreciation of Proslate in its use horizontally, and perpendicularly with battens. The roof projections are unnecessarily heavy but the scheme is in the right direction. The presentation, however, might have been much better.

**THIRD.** — We have placed number 115 third. In this plan the arrangement is not quite so compact but it is certainly very attractive. The service

would be excellent. The living room and dining room open out of each other attractively, besides giving the effect of a good area. The kitchen is well planned with cross drafts through the pantry. There is only one chimney. The second story hallway is well lighted, and the bedrooms are of good size and convenient, and have good closets.

The exterior is unusually attractive, and shows a thorough appreciation of the use of Proslate. If the houses should be built in rows, the absence of windows on the ends would add to their privacy. The designer shows an interesting variety of treatment of doorways, porches, and surface design of Proslate. The effect shown in the perspective is very charming and original, and the details accompanying the sheet are interesting.

*FOURTH.*—We have placed number 369 fourth. This is a variation of the square plan and rather complicated. The living room and dining room are attractively planned and the kitchen is well isolated. The small area of the house necessitated a projection to be built out for the entrance hall. There is only one chimney passing through the roof; two, however, start from the cellar floor and the kitchen flue arches over the passage to dining room, thus making a single chimney stack above. The arrangement of hall is such that one may enter any room without passing through another. Much is claimed by the architect that his entrance is on an intermediate level between the cellar and main floor, "thereby avoiding the common fault of having to go up and then down stairs." The second story has four good bedrooms, a well-lighted hall, and the bathroom is directly over the kitchen plumbing. The bedrooms are lighted from two sides, and ventilated with cross drafts.

The exterior has been considered carefully as to the limitation of the Proslate, which runs up and down on the walls with battens and on the roof horizontally. The presentation of the scheme is very interesting.

*FIFTH.*—We have placed number 361 fifth. This plan shows a distinct type. In some ways the plan is unnecessarily complicated, the stair hall from front door to dining room, for example, which has its counterpart in the story above. But the living room is very attractive and cosy. The kitchen is absolutely isolated from the living part of the house as is also the dining room. The back porch is convenient. In the second story the bedrooms are very good indeed, also the bathroom.

The exterior shows a most effective appreciation of the material to be used, Proslate laid horizontally on the walls, and perpendicularly with battens on the roof. While the exterior is so simple, it is of attractive proportion and should make a charming house.



*SIXTH.*—We have placed number 346 sixth. This is one of the simplest of all the designs, and might be called of the bungalow type rather than an all-year house. The main outdoor entrance leads directly to the living room and the staircase leads from that. While it might not be the most popular form, as lacking in privacy, still it is economical. It is well planned in both stories; on the second there are four good chambers, and a bathroom over the plumbing below.

The projections from the regular square house would add somewhat to the cost, but the small area of the main house would admit of these efforts. The exterior with gambrel roof is attractive but would have to be carefully designed to avoid pinching the chamber area. The Proslate is again shown in its proper use. The perspective is very good in presentation.

*SEVENTH.*—We have placed number 252 seventh. This plan does not show quite the compactness necessary, but it is certainly in the right direction. The rooms are well arranged, and the service would be very convenient. In the second story the chambers are as they should be, at the corners, and the division of the plumbing is a good point made, and is directly over that of the kitchen. We take it for granted that only one chimney is intended, though a fireplace appears in the dining room. The little projections of windows would seem to add unnecessarily to the expense.

The exterior, while perhaps appearing more like a half-timbered or a concrete house, could be at least easily adapted to the Proslate. The presentation of the scheme is very pleasing.

*EIGHTH.*—We have placed number 223 eighth. This belongs to the compact type but there is a lack of proportion about the first story plan which injures it. For a house of this kind the dining room should hardly be larger than the living room. There is too much fuss about the front of the house, with its porch, bay window, pergola — too many motives of design. This plan is certainly convenient but not adapted perhaps so well as others to the class the competition intended. In the second story there are good chambers, with bathroom over the plumbing below. The perspective shows fussiness, projecting bay, and porch. The detail drawing shows an appreciation of the material to be used. The use of stencil coloring as a means of decoration is suggested by the author. There could hardly be much of this within the price proposed.

The presentation, however, is most attractive, and it is to be regretted that the drawing was so poorly packed as to have been badly injured during transit.

For Honorable Mention we recommend the drawings numbered 417, 387, 279, 368, 263. We have chosen these five designs because we consider them suggestive of economical plans and exteriors and of interesting treatments of the use of Proslate.

We are sorry to have to pass by so many plans not only beautifully drawn but skilfully designed; they, however, represented a cost and unsuitableness entirely at variance with the purpose of the competition.

We are glad to be able to say that our decisions in the matter of recommendations for awards have been sustained by a number of prominent architects whom we have called to our assistance.

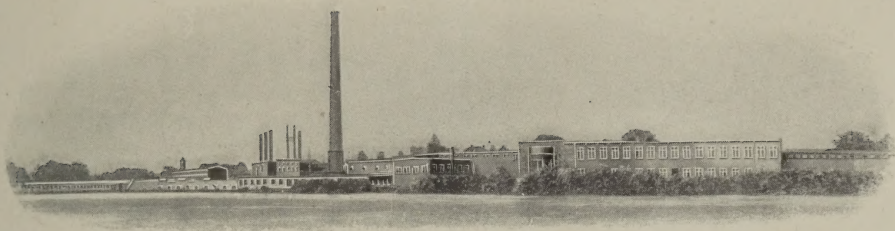
In summing up, we recommend that

No. 140	be awarded the Prize of \$300
" 18	" " " " 150
" 115	" " " " 50
" 369	" " " " 25
" 361	" " " " 25
" 346	" " " " 25
" 252	" " " " 25
" 223	" " " " 25
" 417	" " Honorable Mention
" 387	" " " "
" 279	" " " "
" 368	" " " "
" 263	" " " "

Very truly yours,

F. W. CHANDLER.

CHARLES COLLENS.



OUR MILLS ON THE NEPONSET RIVER AT EAST WALPOLE, MASSACHUSETTS



F. W. BIRD & SON

ESTABLISHED 1817



*MAKERS OF*

NEPONSET ROOFING AND SHEATHING PAPER

FLORIAN SOUND DEADENING FELT

PAROID ROOFING

PROSLATE ROOFING

NEPONSET INSULATING PAPER

KOSAT INSULATING PAPERS

SPECIAL PAPERS



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